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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

GRAND FORKS, ND

UNIVERSITY LETTER

UND'S FACULTY/STAFF NEWSLETTER

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TOP STORIES

New report finds wide differences in health and health

care in North Dakota

The state of health and health care varies widely across North Dakota, according to a new report issued by the Center for Rural Health at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Commissioned by Dakota Medical Foundation, the environmental scan report is the first of its kind in the state to comprehensively assess the health and health care of North Dakotans.

The message that emerges from the environmental scan is that the best of North Dakota—a cooperative and collaborative spirit, a can-do attitude, and concern for neighbors—can be brought to bear directly on transforming the state of health and health care.

North Dakota performs well on several health-related measures, including a decrease in smoking, all-time high rate of seat belt use, better-than-average hospitals and nursing homes and high-quality and efficient health care services (13th in the country). However, the state also suffers from a large overweight and obese adult population (64.9%), the second-highest rate of binge drinking in the nation, and 8.2% of people without health insurance. Access to health services is a challenge due to geographic distances, health professions shortages, and adequate insurance coverage.

The report, *An Environmental Scan of Health and Health Care: Establishing the Baselines for Positive Health Transformation*, provides an overview of selected health and health care issues in North Dakota, along with measures, performances, rates and rankings. The report also features a comprehensive list of programs in North Dakota that address selected health issues.

The report compares North Dakota to benchmarks on a wide variety of topics, and notes that, because there is limited information on some topics, there is a pressing need for better data to inform community, state and tribal health policy reform efforts.

"In looking at our state as a whole, we found that, while there are areas of excellence, there are definitely areas for improvement," said co-author Boris Volkov, PhD. "We are hoping people can leverage current efforts and collaborate to share resources and ideas."

Report Highlights:

Quality of Care: The state's health care systems perform better than many others in providing consumers with relatively high-quality and efficient health care services (the 13th highest in the country).

Environmental Challenges: The state's growing elderly population, expanding minority population (up 13.8% from 2000 to 2006), and the significant decline in the number of youth (a 15% decline from 2000 to 2005), have direct implications for health care services. Around 12% of the state's population lives in poverty.

Financing Health Services: Health expenditures in North Dakota increased annually by 6% from 1991 to 2004. North Dakotans spend more on hospital care, drugs and nursing home care than the overall United States.

Chronic Diseases: North Dakota's performance on measures of chronic disease-related conditions tends to be better than national averages and most states. Cardiovascular disease and cancer are the leading causes of death in North Dakota (49% of all deaths).

Health Care Status: Public and private insurers tend to purchase health care services at low cost compared to other states. However, an imbalance between reimbursement levels and cost of providing care is driving some

health care facilities to decrease services or cutback infrastructure, salaries and staffing.

Infrastructure: Supply of health workforce, aging physical plants, reimbursement levels, demographic changes and the prospect of increasing numbers of uninsured associated with deteriorating economic conditions are systemic issues facing health care facilities, both urban and rural.

Health Insurance: 8.2% (approximately 51,900 people) of North Dakotans are uninsured. Specific groups that are more likely to be uninsured include rural residents, young adults, Native Americans and workers of small employers.

Workforce: There are 271 health care provider vacancies in North Dakota for physicians, nurses, clinical laboratory scientists, mental health professionals and X-ray technicians.

Utilization of Services: The state has higher admission rates (9th highest in the nation) and longer lengths of stay than the national average (8.8 days compared to 5.7 days).

"The health of North Dakotans is essential to our state's success. This environmental scan highlights areas that are at risk," said Pat Traynor, Dakota Medical Foundation President. "By ensuring data driven decision-making, we can be more strategic with our resources to help create the healthiest state in the country."

To access the full report, briefs and video, visit us online at

<http://ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/escan/publications.php>

-- Wendy Opsahl, Communications Director, Center for Rural Health, wopsahl@medicine.nodak.edu, 777-0871

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UND ranks #1 nationally for percentage of grads choosing family medicine

The UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences is the top medical school in the country for producing family medicine physicians, according to rankings released by the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

Ranking first among the country's 126 medical schools, UND earned the Achievement Award from the AAFP, which recognizes outstanding efforts to foster student interest in family medicine and produce graduates who enter the specialty.

Based on a three-year average, for the period ending October 2007, over 20 percent of UND's graduates have entered an accredited family medicine residency program. The overall U.S. match rate for family medicine this year is 7.4 percent, according to the AAFP.

"We are very pleased to be recognized as the nation's most effective medical school in encouraging students to pursue the specialty of family medicine," said Joshua Wynne, MD, MBA, MPH, senior executive vice president for health affairs and executive dean of the UND medical school. "We are working hard to address North Dakota's need for physicians and other health care workers, especially those in the field of family medicine."

According to Robert Beattie, MD, chair of the school's Department of Family and Community Medicine, "The AAFP Achievement Award recognizes the results of the quality education and training our students receive from exceptionally talented family physicians throughout the state."

"This honor recognizes the efforts of UND and our practicing physician-faculty members to present family

medicine as a fulfilling career. It's particularly important because family physicians are critical to the provision of quality health care services, especially in the rural areas of North Dakota," said Beattie, who accepted the award last month at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine annual spring conference in Denver.

The AAFP Top Ten Achievement Awards recognize medical schools for the exceptional role in advocating for the specialty of family medicine. These awards were created to promote the goal of having more U.S. medical school graduates enter family medicine each year.

-- Wendy Opsahl, Communications Director, Center for Rural Health, wopsahl@medicine.nodak.edu, 777-0871

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EVENTS TO NOTE

Doctoral examination set for Robert Johnson

The final examination for Robert Johnson, a candidate for the Ph.D. degree with a major in Counseling Psychology, is set for 9 a.m., June 26, in 318 Montgomery Hall. The dissertation title is: Measuring Supervisor Self-Efficacy: Development and Validation of the Psychotherapy Supervisor Self-Efficacy Scale. Dr. Kara Wettersten (Counseling Psychology and Community Services) is the committee chair.

The public is invited to attend.

-- Joseph Benoit, Dean, The Graduate School, joseph.benoit@und.edu, 777-4005

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UND Conflict Resolution Center hosts restorative justice symposium June 15-19

The UND Conflict Resolution Center (CRC) will hold an International Symposium on Restorative Justice through June 19. Symposium events will take place at the UND Skalicky Tech Incubator on campus and at the Hilton Garden Inn, Grand Forks.

The symposium will focus on "Pathways for Restoring Community" and will feature Kay Pranis, restorative justice pioneer, Minnesota Department of Corrections, and many others with experience in using restorative justice principles in communities, schools and the justice system.

Symposium schedule

June 17, 7 to 9 p.m., Special Native American Spiritual Presentation, Hopper-Danley Spiritual Center at UND - Open to the public - we will accept a free will donation to cover the costs of the artists

June 18, 8 to 11:15 a.m., Skalicky Tech Incubator, \$35: Framework and Principles of Restorative Justice, Paul Redekop, Menno Simons College & University of Winnipeg, joined by Kay Pranis

June 18, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn, *\$10: Native American Cultural Perspectives Presentation/Lunch, with Tony DePerry, Ojibwe Tribal Elder, Wisconsin, on indigenous ways - Hilton Garden Inn

June 18, 12:45 to 5 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn, \$35: What Works With Youth and Encouraging Youth Accountability - multiple presentations

June 19, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn, \$35: The Promise of Restoration and Reconciliation for Policing, Probation, and the Adult Criminal Justice System - multiple presentations

Sponsors include the Tribal Judicial Institute at UND, Lutheran Social Services, UND, Prairie Knights Casino,

Native American Law Students Association, and others

Please contact the Conflict Resolution Center to register at 777-3664, conflict_resolution@mail.und.edu or go to <http://conflictresolution.und.edu>.

-- Kristine Paranica, Director, Conflict Resolution Center, kristine_paranica@und.edu, 777-3664

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UND Aerospace to conduct aircraft accident investigation course next week

The UND Aerospace Foundation and the Air Line Pilots Association, in a cooperative effort, will begin a two-and-a-half day aircraft accident investigation course at the Grand Forks International Airport Tuesday through Thursday (June 16-18). The course is designed to provide an advanced level of instruction to individuals who may participate in aircraft accident investigations conducted by the National Transportation Safety Board and the Federal Aviation Administration.

"As unfortunate as they are, aircraft accidents are opportunities for investigators to learn more about the errors pilots and organizations may make that result in aircraft accidents," said Dana Siewert, UND Aerospace's Director of Aviation Safety. "This course develops hands on skills by recreating an actual aircraft mishap in a learning environment."

More than 30 airline pilots and aviation professionals from around the U.S and Canada are expected to participate in the course which will use actual aircraft wreckage which was donated by a firm in California. The accident site will be recreated south of the flight operations facility and used specifically for investigative training techniques.

This is the seventh year that UNDAF and ALPA have conducted the course. For further information, contact Dana Siewert at 777-7895 or siewert@aero.und.edu

-- David L. Dodds, Writer/Editor, University Relations, daviddodds@mail.und.edu, 777-5529

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Burgers on the Boulevard is June 18

Dining Services thanks everyone for the great turn-out last week. Realizing that some customers experienced a longer than expected wait, more cash registers will be open to speed up service this week. Burgers on the Boulevard is located outside of Stomping Grounds University Place on Thursday, June 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (weather permitting). Hamburgers, brats, chicken and veggie burgers will be grilled fresh to order. You may also purchase side salads, beverages and chips. Enjoy patio seating outside or cool air-conditioning inside University Place. Parking available on Stanford Road.

Menu:

Grilled Hamburger - \$1.50

Grilled Cheeseburger - \$1.75

Veggie Burger - \$1.75

Brat - \$1.50

Mesquite Chicken - \$1.50

-- Jeff St. Michel, Assistant Director, Dining Services, jeffreystmichel@mail.und.edu, 777-3823

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Free events set for Turtle River State Park June 20

Saturday, June 20 is Turtlefest 2009 at Turtle River State Park (20 miles west of Grand Forks on Highway 2), 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Park admission is free that day.

All events are located at the Woodland Lodge, except where noted.

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. - Guided mountain bike tour

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Kids' fishing seminar (CCC Memorial Shelter)

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Arts and crafts for kids

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Fund raiser meal including wood-fired buffalo burgers (with coleslaw, home baked beans, and coffee/lemonade) for \$7.50. Kid's hotdog meal (with chips & lemonade) for \$2.50.

1 to 2 p.m. - Minnow Races

2:30 p.m. - LIVE amphibians and reptiles presentation

Ongoing Events: "Bounce house" in the play area, geocaching instruction (bring your GPS), self-guided scavenger hunt, camping units on display, bikes & biking equipment on display, live music by "Too Old to Die Young."

Sponsored by Friends of Turtle River with assistance from Cabela's, Scheels, Ski & Bike Shop, Leisureland RV, Budget RV, and 97 KYCK FM.

-- Patsy Nies, Special Project Assistant, Enrollment Services, patsynies@mail.und.nodak.edu, 777-3791

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World Refugee Day celebration is June 23

In recognition of the worldwide event declared by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, the Global Friends Coalition will be hosting a celebration on Tuesday, June 23. This event will be held both inside and outside Zion United Methodist Church from 7 to 9 p.m. The program will begin at 7:30.

Attendees can learn more about the refugee experience, the refugees living in our community, and volunteer opportunities through cultural displays and performances. Refreshments and children's activities will also be provided. The event is free, but attendees can bring a donation of a new or gently used household item (something to set up an apartment for a refugee family).

-- Robin David, Associate Director, Honors Program, robin.david@und.edu, 777-6185

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MBA open house June 23 in partnership with Lake Region State College

The UND, in partnership with Lake Region State College, will host an open house on June 23 at the LRSC campus for individuals interested in an online Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree program. A recent study developed by LRSC and UND indicated a growing demand for professional degrees in the Lake Region, so the two schools are partnering to bring more educational opportunities to Devils Lake and the surrounding area.

"The MBA Open House is the beginning of many opportunities we will be offering in partnership with Lake Region State College," said Dr. Philip Parnell, director of online enrollment and community college relations at UND, "Between what Lake Region already offers and what UND can bring into the region through online and distance education, our goal is to provide a 'hometown university' that meets the educational needs of the community—without residents needing to travel outside of Devils Lake."

UND offers a large number of online and distance degree programs. The online MBA program prepares individuals to meet "real world" management challenges at the executive level. Graduates of the MBA program will have enhanced communication, management, and analytical skills.

Individuals interested in the online MBA can attend the June 23 open house to visit with MBA faculty and advisors, review the MBA curriculum and admission requirements, learn how the online program works, and discuss tuition and financial aid options.

The open house will be held June 23 in Heritage Hall on the LRSC Campus, 1801 College Drive North, Devils Lake from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. with a brief presentation at 5:30 p.m. Anyone in Devils Lake or the surrounding area who is interested in the MBA program is welcome to attend.

For more information, contact UND Online & Distance Education at www.devilslake.und.edu or toll free at 1-800-342-8230.

-- Jennifer Swangler, Assistant Director of Marketing, Continuing Education,
jenniferswangler@mail.und.edu, 777-6374

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June Denim Day Is June 24th

Wednesday, June 24, is the last Wednesday of the month, and that makes it Denim Day. Wear your denim, pay your dollar to your building coordinator, and enjoy going casual.

If you need buttons or posters, call me. All proceeds to charity, as always.

-- Patsy Nies, Special Project Assistant, Enrollment Services, patsynies@mail.und.nodak.edu, 777-3791

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Kimmerle photography to be on display at the museum

The photography of Chuck Kimmerle, University Photographer, will be on display at the North Dakota Museum of Art beginning June 30. This will be the first solo exhibition for the Grand Forks photographer. The artist reception and gallery talk will be held Tuesday, June 30, 6 p.m. Join us for music, wine and hors d'oeuvres.

Kimmerle was born and raised in Minnesota, and has been a photographer for more than 20 years. He moved to Grand Forks in 1996 while working as a photojournalist. His subsequent travels throughout the rural areas of the plains gave him an appreciation for the intricacy of the landscape, and the motivation for this ongoing project.

The exhibit, titled "The Unapologetic Landscape," explores the unique features, both agricultural and natural, which adorn the northern plains of North Dakota and western Minnesota, giving the place an aesthetic value and unique personality, so easily overlooked. Kimmerle states, "This area, devoid of the natural grandiosity preferred by the majority of destination seekers, is more often traveled through than intentionally visited. At first glance, it looks dull, mundane. However, I have gained an intense appreciation of, and affection for, the unique environmental elements – shelterbelts, crop rows, flat horizons, farmsteads, gravel roadways, and silence – that give this landscape its identity."

Kimmerle's photographs are exclusively in black and white. The form and texture of the landscape are the defining characteristics of the photography, instead of the color. This straightforward approach helps to keep with the organized pastoral simplicity of the land.

Kimmerle was a member of the Grand Forks Herald photo staff that was runner-up for the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for Spot News Photography. During that time, he contributed photos to the Museum's publication, "Under the Whelming Tide," which depicts the devastating effects of the Grand Forks Flood of 1997. Kimmerle has also been a four time recipient of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Photographer of the Year from among the 3,000-plus colleges and universities internationally that make up the higher education professional organization.

The North Dakota Museum of Art is located on Centennial Drive on the UND campus. The Museum hours are weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and weekends from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Museum Shop is open during these hours. There is no general admission for viewing exhibitions, visiting the Museum Shop or the Museum Café.

-- Brian Lofthus, Assistant to the Director, North Dakota Museum of Art, blofthus@ndmoa.com, 777-4195

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Sushi demonstration to take place in the Culinary Corner

Monday, July 13, 5:30 p.m.
Cost: \$10/person

Have you seen Sushi but never really ventured to try it or maybe you love it and want to know how to make it yourself? Either way, come join the Health Educator and Dietitian from the GFAFB as they each you how to make your own Sushi. There will be a demonstration on making some basic rolls and then ingredients will be provided for you to create your own.

To register, go online to www.wellness.und.edu- click on Nutrition and Culinary Corner. Space is limited, so register today.

-- Karina Wittmann, Coordinator of Nutrition , Wellness Center, karinawittmann@mail.und.edu, 777-0769

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

UND's special task force submits final report on policies related to bias-related incidents

A task force charged with reviewing UND policies related to bias-related incidents has submitted its final report to UND Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Paul LeBel, Vice President for Student and Outreach Services Robert Boyd, and Vice President for Finance and Operations Alice Brekke.

The task force, chaired by Psychology Professor James Antes, was formed in the summer of 2008 in response to bias-related incidents that had occurred on campus during the 2007-2008 academic year. Two of the three vice presidents who formed the task force – Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Greg Weisenstein and Vice President for Finance & Operations Robert Gallagher – have since left the university. Daniel Rice, Dean of the College of Education and Human Development, chaired the task force at the conclusion of its work.

"The Special Task Force was appointed almost a year ago by three Vice Presidents. Our charge was to address the improvement of the climate for diversity on campus, to review the way the university responds to incidents of bias, and to consider ways to prevent such incidents. The membership included faculty, staff, and students, broadly representing the university community. It is our hope that the steps we have recommended will make UND an even more welcoming and accepting place for all the members of the university community," said Rice.

The Final Report includes description of the specific work of the task force, observations on campus climate, findings and recommendations. The task force report emphasizes the importance of diversity as a pre-condition for academic excellence and calls for collaborative work among all members of the UND community in improving conditions on the campus.

UND President Robert Kelley has asked Vice Presidents Boyd, Brekke, and LeBel to include a careful consideration of the task force Final Report in formulating recommendations to the President.

"We are very grateful for the hard work that the task force members put into this process," said Provost LeBel. "Their efforts emphasize the University's commitment to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment, and I am confident that significant steps will be taken as a result of their work."

The Vice Presidents have committed to a meeting in August with the people who served on the task force to report on the recommendations made to the President.

The full report can be found at <http://www2.und.nodak.edu/our/news/pdf/taskForceFinalReport.pdf>
-- Peter Johnson, Executive Associate Vice President for University, 777-4317,
peterjohnson@mail.und.nodak.edu

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UND student-athletes enjoy record-setting academic year in the classroom

When UND senior golfer Amanda Kaler (Fargo, N.D.) was named an ESPN the Magazine Academic All-American earlier this month, she became UND's sixth student-athlete to garner Academic All-America honors during the 2008-09 season, the most in school history.

Kaler joined men's hockey player Chay Genoway (Jr., Morden, Manitoba) and football players Mitch Braegelmann (Sr., St. Cloud, Minn.), Rory Manke (Sr., Detroit Lakes, Minn.), Andrew Miller (Jr., Menomonie, Wis.) and Brady Trenbeath (Sr., Cavalier, N.D.) among UND's 2008-09 Academic All-Americans. Braegelmann and Manke, both repeat selections, were named to the Academic All-America football first team, while Miller and Trenbeath earned second-team honors. Kaler was named to the Academic All-America at-large second team, while Genoway was named to the at-large third team.

The previous school-record number of Academic All-Americans was five, set in 1984-85 and matched in 2001-02 and 2005-06.

UND's student-athletes combined for a 3.085 grade point average during the 2008-09 academic year, including a 3.112 GPA during the spring semester. The highest GPA among UND's teams belonged to head coach Tom Wynnes tennis squad, which produced a 3.654 GPA during the academic year.

"Given the challenges of our first year of Division I transition, particularly the tremendous amount of travel involved, our student-athletes did an incredible job in the classroom," said Director of Athletics Brian Faison.

Other notable academic achievements in 2008-09 included:

Kaler and Manke each earned NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships.

Six UND football players earned ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District honors, including a district-leading five first-team selections. It was the second straight year UND boasted more first-teamers than any other school in the district.

Juniors Brittany Brenny and Kristi Dahlheimer were named to the ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District women's track and field/cross country team.

Josh Lagein, Jake Magner, Josh Nelson and Andrew Sadler were each named to the 2009 Independent Baseball All-Academic Team.

UND placed a league-high 24 student-athletes on the 2008 Fall Academic All-Great West Conference team, including a league-leading 16 football players.

Thirty-seven student athletes were named to the 2009 Winter/Spring Academic All-Great West Conference team

UND men's and women's hockey team combined to place 19 student-athletes on the All-WCHA Academic team.

Seven student-athletes were named to the 2009 National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF) Hampshire Honor Society.

UND's Academic Awards Night in February honored 247 student-athletes who achieved either a 3.0 GPA during the fall semester or a cumulative 3.0 through the fall semester.

During the spring semester, 14 of UND's 18 teams achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher.

-- Jayson Hajdu, Media Relations Director, Athletics, jaysonhajdu@mail.und.nodak.edu, 777-2985

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Barbara Knight is new assistant director for Library of the Health Sciences

Barbara Knight, M.A., M.L.S., has been appointed assistant director and collection management librarian for the Library of the Health Sciences.

Barbara has been the library's head of public services since 2004, and prior to that time was head of reference and user education. Previous positions include Northwest Clinical Campus librarian (Minot) for the medical school, and library at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Sioux City, Iowa. She is close to completing the Ph.D. in the School of Library and Information Management, Emporia State University, Kansas.

With her experience in both academic and clinical settings, Barbara brings extensive knowledge of information resources and services.

-- Lila Pedersen, Director, Library of the Health Sciences, lpederse@medicine.nodak.edu, 777-3993

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University Within the University (U2) lists new classes

Records Disposal Process

June 23 or June 24, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Skalicky Tech Incubator, Room 211

Year-end is upon us and once again it is time to look at disposing of records. This session will review the disposal process. Points covered include, reading/using the retention schedule, navigating the RM website, completing the process. This course is intended for those staff members directly involved in disposing of UND records. Presenter: Christopher Flynn

Workplace Etiquette

June 23, 1:30 to 3 p.m., Skalicky Tech Incubator, Room 211

Job etiquette refresher, featuring: phone etiquette, professional dress, customer service, co-worker interaction, and e-mail etiquette. Presenter: Ann Dolence

Emergency Preparedness

June 24, 2 to 4 p.m., Skalicky Tech Incubator, Room 211

This course will describe UND's procedures for dealing with all types of emergencies, including but not limited to: severe weather, terrorism, natural disaster, and pandemic influenza. Guidance will be given regarding the

proper action to take before, during, and after an emergency. Presenter: Jason Uhlir

Visa Issues & Hiring International Faculty & Staff

June 25, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Skalicky Tech Incubator, Room 211

Are you hiring international faculty/staff or sponsoring visiting scholars? This workshop will provide guidance concerning the acquisition of the correct visa for international faculty, visiting scholars, medical residents, and professional staff. It will discuss the difference between J-1, H-1B, and TN visas along with application procedures through the Office of International Programs, U.S. Immigration and Citizenship Service, and U.S. Department of State. Presenter: Dr. William Young

-- Patricia Young, U2 Coordinator, Continuing Education, patriciayoung@mail.und.edu, 777-0720

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AAUW is collecting used books, media materials

AAUW is now collecting used books and working media materials through mid-October. Please drop off at: 2420 9th Avenue North, Grand Forks or call one of the following numbers: 772-0247, 772-1622, or 795-9808.

-- Gordon Iseminger, Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor, History, gordoniseminger@mail.und.nodak.edu, 777-2688

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Beware of laptop thefts on campus

The University Police Department has been receiving reports of laptop computers being stolen from various offices on campus. These thefts have occurred during brief periods of time when the offices were unoccupied for just a few minutes. Please lock your office if it not going to be staffed, even if it is just for a short period of time, and please report any suspicious individuals or activities you may observe on campus immediately to the University Police. Thank you.

-- Thomas Brockling, Police Officer, UND Police Department, tombrockling@mail.und.edu, 777-3491

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UND athletics adds Derek Koenen to media relations

UND director of athletics Brian Faison announced today the elevation of Derek Koenen to assistant director of media relations.

Koenen, who spent the 2008-09 season as an intern within the UND athletics media relations office, will serve as UND's primary contact for women's hockey, soccer, and men's and women's golf.

"I am extremely pleased to be able to retain Derek as a full-time member of our staff," said UND director of media relations Jayson Hajdu. "His experience, work ethic and commitment to Fighting Sioux athletics will allow us to continue to pursue and provide increased media opportunities for our womens hockey, soccer and golf programs."

Prior to joining UND's media relations staff, Koenen spent the previous two years as an athletics communications intern at Minnesota State University, Mankato, where he was the primary contact for Maverick wrestling and mens and womens golf.

Koenen also served as a public relations intern with the National Football League's Minnesota Vikings from 2005-08 and was a full-time assistant each season during training camp. While with the Vikings, he was also a member of the Vikings gameday staff during regular season and playoff home games and was responsible for coordinating press conferences and media requests.

Before joining the Vikings, Koenen was a sports journalist for the Marshall (Minn.) Independent.

A native of Marshall, Minn., Koenen received a bachelors degree in mass communications and public relations with a marketing minor from Minnesota State in 2007.

-- Jayson Hajdu, Media Relations Director, Athletics, jaysonhajdu@mail.und.nodak.edu, 777-2985

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benefited employees asked to take health club credit survey

Do you want to save money and build a healthier you? Then the new Health Club Credit program being launched July 1 is for you.

Each eligible member can earn up to a \$20 health club credit per month when each member exercises at a participating health club 12 or more days out of the month. Spouses who are 18 or older and covered by the BCBSND health plan are also eligible to participate.

To better prepare for the impact this might have on the UND Wellness Center, we ask for you to complete a brief survey. To begin the survey, please copy the following link into your web browser:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=YJ_2bWbgniCPLPe2zwUTvknA_3d_3d. There are nine questions, and it will take just a few minutes of your time. We ask that you complete the survey by June 22.

For your help, you will receive two coupons (for you and/or a guest) to try the UND Wellness Center for free in the month of July. If you already have a membership, you still will receive two free passes for guests.

We thank you in advance for your time. If you would prefer to answer the survey through a paper version, or have any questions related to joining the UND Wellness Center, please contact Carrie Herrig, Assistant Director of Membership and Team Wellness at: 701-777-4864 or carrieherrig@mail.und.nodak.edu.

-- Carrie Herrig, Assistant Director of Membership and Team Wellness, Wellness Center,

carrieherrig@mail.und.nodak.edu, 777-4864

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Donated leave sought for Wanda Seyler

We are seeking donated leave for Wanda Seyler, administrative secretary in Atmospheric Sciences. If you wish to donate any leave, please send the donation form to Gary Ebel, Odegard School, PO Box 9007. Donation leave forms can be obtained from the following payroll web address:

<http://www.und.edu/dept/payroll/webforms/Donated%20Leave%20Form.PDF> , or by calling 7-4004 or 7-2913. Thank you.

-- Gary Ebel, Senior HR Manager, UND Aerospace, ebel@aero.und.edu, 777-2913

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Donated leave sought for Andrea Bensen

Andrea Bensen is a Facilities Management Building Services Technician in need of donated leave. Anyone interested in helping Andrea can fill out a leave donation form and submit to Patti Schmidt in Facilities at STOP 9032. Thank you.

-- Patti Schmidt, HR Assistant, Facilities Management, pattischmidt@mail.und.edu, 777-2595

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Museum cafe announces weekly menu through Friday, June 23

SANDWICHES, served with fruit and kettle chips

- Curry Tuna Salad
- Apple and Cheddar Sandwich

- PIZZA
- Deluxe Pita Pizza
 - Margherita Pita Pizza

- SALADS
- Chef Salad
 - Caprese Salad

- SOUP
- Creamy asparagus soup with mint

- SIDES
- Pretzel with Honey Mustard

- DESSERT
- Home-made brownies
 - Chocolate brownie sundae

Museum Café hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays, with lunch served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Take-out available • UND billing accepted • 777-4195

-- Brian Lofthus, Assistant to the Director, North Dakota Museum of Art, blofthus@ndmoa.com, 777-4195

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NSF proposals sought to improve graduation rates in STEM areas

The National Science Foundation has announced a solicitation for the STEP program (NSF 08-569; deadline Sept 29, to NSF). We are allowed one proposal from the UND. This program is to improve graduation rates in the STEM areas. I have been contacted by one department interested in submitting a proposal, but would like to give all eligible departments an opportunity to make a case for a submission. If you are in a STEM department, I encourage you to examine this RFP and seriously consider applying. In addition, I suggest you partner with one or more departments.

The Office of Research will consider pre-proposals as a screening mechanism for the UND submission. The pre-proposal should include:

1. The area of STEM targeted.
2. Participating departments and faculty.
3. Strategies planned to increase STEM graduation rates.
4. Short-term pre-funding costs (infrastructure improvement) and long-term financial support plan/need after the grant is over.
5. How your plan supports the mission of UND in the STEM area targeted.

Some of these requirements are also elements required by the RFP. Please confine your response to 4 pages. Send pre-proposals to Barry Milavetz (barrymilavetz@mail.und.nodak.edu) by July 1.

-- John C. La Duke, Ph.D., Associate Vice President for Research and Economic Development, Research Development and Compliance, john.laduke@und.nodak.edu, 777-4278

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Nursing professor and research team secure Canadian

Institute of Health Research grant

The Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) has awarded Dr. Roberta Woodgate (principal investigator) from the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Nursing, \$529,081 for an emerging team grant. Donna Martin, assistant professor at UND College of Nursing, was a co-applicant and is a member of this team.

The grant is to conduct a three year study titled, "Unraveling the Disability Trajectory of First Nations Families of Children with Disabilities: Advancing Jordan's Principle." The aim of the study is explore the experiences of First Nations families of children with disabilities, identify resources and make recommendations to facilitate culturally competent care.

Jordan was a First Nations (a Canadian term used to describe indigenous peoples or status or non-status Indians) child who suffered from a terminal illness and disability.

"Dr. Martin's research is a prime example of the way in which research teams can address critical health issues for individuals and communities," said Cindy Anderson, interim associate dean of research and assistant professor at the UND College of Nursing. "The findings resulting from this research among First Nations families will have implications for the vulnerable populations living here in North Dakota as well."

This emerging multidisciplinary research team is a prime example of growing partnerships between the UND and the University of Manitoba in a quest to lessen health care disparities in indigenous populations.

-- Becky Cournia, Alumni & Development Officer, College of Nursing, beckycournia@mail.und.edu, 777-4526

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